

**Port Charlotte United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2013**

Paul Kisner opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

The minutes from the January 7, 2013 meeting were approved.

Old Business

Frank Hansen indicated the Finance Committee has approved Bob Burr's version of the policy for donor gifts; a copy of this policy is attached for review. A vote will then be taken at the next Church Council meeting.

Council Reports

Salty Service

Nancy Bosserdet reported that currently there is \$9718 remaining of the \$10,000 seed money allocated for WNO.

Generosity

No report given.

Discipleship – Doris Hixson

- . The Cancer Support group has begun. June Richards reported that seven were in attendance. Meetings are held twice a month.
- . The Grief Share program is scheduled to begin on February 13th. Ann VanHoose-Oleson is the contact person.
- . A discussion was held regarding the lack of signed Leadership Covenant forms. Bob Burr offered to contact those persons who have yet to sign the form. Carol Hansen stated that all new members on the Church Council should also fill out the form. This matter will be revisited at the March meeting.

Hospitality – Marcie Marshall

No report given.

Staff-Parish – Tom Marshall

- . An internal personnel problem has been handled satisfactorily.
- . The pastoral and church profiles have been completed.

Finance/Treasurer – Frank Hansen/Tom Wenck

The church is slightly below budget but not in bad shape. Nancy Bosserdet has been busy with year-end activities. We are okay for now.

Trustees – Mike Sniecinski

- . Trustees are in the preliminary stage of getting ideas for enlarging the lobby area, such as relocating the Welcome Center, shaving the bubble and removing the rock garden. Architect Tim Krebs and contractor Jack Moorman have been selected to

submit plans and costs. All ideas and suggestions for this project are to be e-mailed to Carol Hansen for forwarding to Tim. Tim's work may be seen at www.takrebs.com.

- . We are in the preliminary stages of re-landscaping the front of the church.
- . Bids are out for replacing and widening the Quesada door entrance ramp for handicap ease to coincide with the front pew removal.
- . Bids are out for repairing the soffits around the building.
- . The purchase of the "Stations of the Cross" for the New Beginnings Park has been approved. They should arrive in early March. Volunteers are needed to put them in.
- . A new copier has been ordered and received.

Worship – Karen Wenck

- . Twelve members of the Worship Committee met to review the Advent and Christmas services and were pleased with their reception.
- . Because of concerns about the flu, minor changes have been made to the way Holy Communion is being served.
- . On Sunday, February 10th, the congregation will be given the opportunity to write their confessional prayers and concerns on a slip of paper which will be burned after church and used for the Ash Wednesday service on February 13th.
- . Very meaningful plans for the Lenten Season will include guest pastors. Pastor Brian indicated that Ralph Burton, Steve Brown, Ray West and Jim Kuse have been invited to speak. Pastor Kuse and his wife Kathy will be honored on March 17th. There may be one service that day at 10:00 a.m., followed by a reception at 11:00 a.m. At noontime, the St. James congregation will join us for the dedication of the Stations of the Cross.
- . Plans have been made for a "Lenten Tree" with symbols that represent what happened during that time.
- . On Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week, there will be a luncheon and Bible study centered on the Passion of Christ. On Maundy Thursday there will be a foot washing service and on Good Friday, the stripping of the altar. The church will be open on Saturday for the prayer vigil from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Palm Sunday will include a drama. Plans for a sunrise service have not yet been completed.

Men's Ministry

No report given.

Women's Ministry

No report given.

Youth Representative – Paul Kisner

- . Youth are currently being registered for summer camp. Registration will be ongoing until the middle of March.
The youth will be assisting with the Valentine's Dinner on February 8th to raise money for a Busch Gardens trip on February 23rd.
- . The youth and family ministry small group will be studying Adam Hamilton's new series "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus" during Lent.

Port Representative – Dawn Kisner

- . “Acts of Faith” Flags and Puppets are going well with 12 children involved. The children’s choir “Good News Singers” are working hard on some projects for Easter. Eileen West and Linda Brown are leading the choir.
- . Our “PBnJ’s” on WNO are starting a new program “Faith Weaver Friends.” Approximately 20 children are participating and the parents’ group led by Nancy Bosserdet and Sue Edmiston is also going well.
- . Working on the Easter outreach with the UMM. This year we want to make a more intentional effort to connect and invite the community during this church wide event. Tino Wallenda has agreed to do his sermon wire act in our sanctuary for the event.
- . A meeting with children’s Sunday School leaders will be held on February 14th to discuss the child-to-teacher ratio and what can be done to improve the school time.
- . Barbara Hald has been attending C3MN (Charlotte County Children’s Ministry Network) which has helped her to learn what other churches are doing, sharing resources, and supporting each other.
- . Working on Easter Week to have activities to coincide with worship services.
- . Forty-five people from Family Ministry played mini-golf one afternoon.
- . A new synergy plan entitled “Sunshine Packages” and led by Allison Motherway was submitted. The plan is to begin with 15-50 Easter boxes for single adults in need. Other holidays could be included, as well as birthdays. Project could be publicized in church bulletin. Council approved plan.

CWM Representative – Barbara Pennington

- . The Weekday Ministry programs are doing well. The preschool children are busy with Valentine activities and crafts. All of the children are being taught I Samuel 16:7 “The Lord looks on the heart” and all about friendship.
- . Once a month birthdays are celebrated with after-school children, and cupcakes, games and fun prizes are enjoyed.
- . The teachers are looking forward to our UMAP (United Methodist Association of Preschools) conference this month. Our four 3-year-old teachers will be offering a workshop for other teachers to attend.
- . Charlotte Pharmacy is offering a free vitamin club for kids which is available to all children ages 2-12.

Lay Leadership – Pastor Brian

Pastor Brian will let Terry Hixson know that three persons who have filled out leadership application forms will need to be interviewed sometime other than on Tuesday evenings due to their involvement in other church activities.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Brian

- . Bob Burr has put together an entire year of testimonies which will be heard on the third Sunday of each month.
- . At the congregation’s request, minutes of every meeting (excluding Staff-Parish) will now be available in a binder at the Welcome Center. Each committee will send its minutes to Carol Hansen who will see that they are published.
- . Pastor Brian will be teaching the Meth-O-Mates class for the next five Sundays.

- . Our church is considering a “robo call” system for our shut-ins which now number about eighty. This will enable anyone who wants to be part of the system to get a daily call to which they will respond by pushing a button. Richard Carey, our IT consultant, is looking into our computer system to see if it has the capability to support closed captioning of the sermons during worship. We do have money from Memorials which can be used to accomplish this task.
- . Karen Wenck suggested the possibility of adopting elderly couples. Those interested could contact the office to be put on the list.

Other Business

June Richards who had recently attended the district leadership training in Sarasota, described a program called “MissionInsite” which is cost free. It can provide specific demographic information within particular radius of the church; i.e., income, languages, unemployment, etc. Carol Hansen indicated she will download this information and bring it to our next Council meeting.

Closing

Bob Burr closed the meeting with prayer.

Minutes submitted by Joan Sniecinski, Secretary